

[SRP copy]

11-11-1984

DWP-

Sunday morning, 11:30 A.M. I decided last night that I would not attend Church this morning. I have just now returned from a walk around the grounds and just as I rounded the ^{SE} corner the building I all but had a head on collision with a very young-looking deer. There are so many hunters in this part of the country that I fear for many of the deer which "hang out" in the back meadow. The "season" begins in about three weeks I think, at which point I am going to wear bright orange garments and stay inside. A few days ago I was on my way "out back" at 7 A.M. -- a foggy, rainy & dark morning -- and a wild turkey flew in front of me -- it came out of a tree on the opposite side of the road. Not long after that I discovered that my lovingly collected and dried cache of acorn and butternut squash seeds had been violated by a mouse -- "a deer mouse" suggested WSP. Among my acquisitions from 10 Hendrick Lane are three mouse traps, ^{each of} which I baited with a ^{whole} cranberry on top of which I put a small dab of mayonnaise. There are now four less "deer mice" in the world, and there have been no new "diners" at my cranberry/mayonnaise table for several days now, so I believe that I have "checked"/decimated (at any rate) the mouse population here. You can imagine, I'm sure, my agitated state upon discovering that my squash seed cache had been violated.

The wood cutting operation here has come to an end -- eight Saturdays in row have been devoted to cutting down trees and cutting them into firewood. You would recognize the place. I shall

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be pleased to once again have Saturday to myself, or I will, beginning next Saturday.

The CHS&M dinner on Friday was a success, although I was disappointed that only about 20 members attended. The newly elected officers are the same ^{from} the last year; the new members of the Board of Directors are: Joe Pascoe, John N. Kiefer, Jr., Jim Hepburn & Susan Barlow Stephen.

Your letters of 10/30/84 & 11/2/84 have been received. Thank you for the Prose & the Toklas. They are highly amusing and highly inspirational, respectively. I have inserted the latter in my copy of the ABT Cookbook. The "modern man" in the Fudge "Christ Still Speaks to Modern Man" looks like Groucho Marx. Where do you do your "recreational" reading -- at the Widener Library? or do you subscribe to Vanity Fair as well. When I wrote my 10/31/84 letter I had not at that time discovered my name in the "Do you remember when..." column. JVB saw it and brought it to my attention and then I got your letter. Thank you for mentioning it. I rarely read that column any more.

"Almost anything Saint Theresa did, you can do better." -- that certainly opens a few doors. ABT and GS were such extraordinary people. So comfortable were they with themselves and their world and all worlds and all people! Historical figures were re-lived and made to compete with the very exciting present world of ABT & GS. Nesting on laurels was not permitted at the rue de Fleurance; not even Saint Theresa could rest on her laurels at the rue de Fleurance, and so the "daily miracle" took place in France, in Paris, on the rue de Fleurance.

Yes, I will be happy to distribute the Christmas bulbs. What a splendid idea. I do agree ^{with the catalog description} -- freebies are "the true antithesis of cut flowers." Regards - SRP